

The Pascagoula Democrat-Star

VOL. 71

PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI, FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1915.

NO. 12

REFUGEES TELL MASSACRE STORY

SLAUGHTER OF ARMENIANS BY MOHAMMEDANS REPORTED TO BE HORRIBLE.

APPEAL MADE TO WILSON

Weeks Fail to Obliterate Pools of Blood and Other Signs That Mark Execution Places—Ten Villages Wiped Out.

Tiflis, Trans-Caucasia. — Refugees reaching the Russian line report that the massacre of Armenians by Mohammedans is being continued on even a greater scale. They say that all the inhabitants of 10 villages near Van, in Armenia, Asiatic Turkey, have been put to death.

On being advised of massacres at Erzerum, Berjan and Zeitun and of the conditions at Van, the Katolikos, head of the Armenian church, at Constantinople, near Erivan, cabled to President Wilson an appeal to the American people on behalf of the Armenians.

Reports of the massacre of 500 villagers in Urfa and of 720 in Salmas, have also been received. A journey through Salmas showed that three weeks had failed to obliterate the signs of the slaughter. Pools of blood still marked the execution places in Haftavan.

THAW IS GIVEN JURY TRIAL

Supreme Court Grants Application on Writ of Habeas Corpus to Test Sanity.

New York.—Harry K. Thaw, after many attempts, has finally succeeded in bringing the question of his sanity before a jury. Application for a jury trial, made by his attorneys in a writ of habeas corpus, has been granted by Supreme Court Justice Hendrick, who set the trial for May 17.

Justice Hendrick made it clear that the jury was called in to aid the court by their advice, and that the finding of the jury would not be binding if the court was satisfied that it was not in accord with the evidence and with justice. The court, he said, could disregard the jury's verdict and render his own decision.

Thaw was remanded to the Tombs, pending the trial.

Justice Hendrick's opinion, accompanying the decision, was lengthy, and showed he had made a careful study of Thaw's case, and of authorities on which to base his decision.

Second Flood Threatens.

San Antonio, Tex.—Three days of almost continuous rains with cloud-bursts in Southwest Texas has threatened Texas with a second flood. All streams in this section are out of their banks and damaged crops, live stock and other property aggregating from \$150,000 to \$500,000, covering 25 counties. Rains ranging from two to five inches in one day's time were reported from many points in the southwestern portion of the state, and flood waters here swept away farms of growing cotton and corn, destroying thousands of acres.

A cloudburst near Boerne, 32 miles from this city, April 25, washed away three railroad bridges and caused considerable damage to railroad and farm property.

225 Vessels in U. S. Navy.

Washington.—Secretary Daniels has made public a letter he has written to President Garfield of Williams college, in reply to a request for material to meet statements that the United States is unprepared for military emergencies.

Secretary Daniels says in his letter that there are at the present time 225 vessels of all character in commission. There are under construction and authorized 77, nine of which are dreadnaughts. According to the letter, the navy has greatly improved in the past two years.

Norwegian Ships Sunk.

Dury Islands, Scotland.—The crews of the Norwegian bark Oscar and Eva were landed here by the Danish steamship Anna. A German submarine overhauled the barks about 170 miles northeast of the Longstone and allowed their crews 10 minutes to board life boats. The submarine then shelled the abandoned vessels.

Subsequently, the German submarine stopped the Danish steamer Anna and ordered her to take aboard the crews of the Oscar and Eva. The barks were bound for a Scottish port and were loaded with mine props.

British Submarine Sunk.

Berlin (via London).—The German admiral has given out a statement saying that in a certain German bay of the North Sea British submarines have been repeatedly observed recently and attacked by German forces. Such a hostile submarine was sent to the bottom April 17, and the destruction of others is considered probable. The admiral's statement specifies Helgoland Bay as the scene of the appearance of the British submarines. This bay is between the mainland and the island of Helgoland.

VILLA STILL A FACTOR

Plans For Another Big Battle Against Carranza Are in Course of Preparation.

Washington.—Consular dispatches from Mexico indicate that while temporarily disorganized by the defeat at Colima, Gen. Villa's forces by no means have been removed as a formidable factor in Mexico's civil war.

State department officials are guarding closely the reports received from Villa territory, as it is not desired to give out military information, but it is known that plans for another battle with Obregon's forces are proceeding rapidly.

Villa's chief difficulty, it was learned officially, is his lack of ammunition. Too, when he met Obregon at Colima, Villa had sent forces to attack Matamoros, Nuevo Laredo, Tampico and West coast towns, greatly depleting his main forces. Indications now are that he intends to concentrate all these forces in Central Mexico for a supreme effort.

The Carranza forces are reported to be well supplied with ammunition and pressing the Villa army closely north of Irapuato. Carranza officials here claim the Villa movement has been given a blow from which it never will recover.

In the meantime, many rumors of counter-revolutionary movements have been current, though they are not credited by the American government. Many former sympathizers of Huerta have been in Washington, but most of them deny that Huerta intends to take the field again.

HAS BIG FORCE AT FRONT

750,000 Englishmen Are Now Battling Against Germans on French Soil.

London.—Speaking in the House of Commons on the manner in which the government is dealing with the question of war equipment, Chancellor Lloyd-George announced that while Great Britain had started in the war on the assumption that the expeditionary forces would consist of six divisions, the country now had more than six times that number of men in France, or approximately 750,000 men.

These divisions, the chancellor said, were adequately supplied, and every man who had dropped had been replaced. It was one of the most magnificent pieces of organization ever performed, and nothing like it, he said, had ever been done before by any country.

Stating that as much ammunition had been expended in the battle of Neuve Chapelle as during the Boer war, Mr. George said the character of the ammunition had to be changed in the middle of the war, and to secure supplies sub-contracts were given to between 2,500 and 3,000 firms.

SIX DEAD ARE RECOVERED

Birmingham Stores Crushed Beneath Tons of Brick When Wall Topped.

Birmingham, Ala.—At least six people are known to have been killed and a score were injured when the five-story wall of the old Steele-Smith building on Second avenue crashed down on the Hann Shoe Store and the Atlantic & Pacific Tea company here late on the afternoon of April 21. The wall fell during a heavy rain storm.

The known dead are: Miss Ruth Johnson, employee of the Hann Shoe Store; Miss Amelia Ebinger, cashier of the Hann Shoe Store; Alex McLeod, manager of the Hann Shoe Store; J. H. Whitlock of Atlanta, traveling auditor of the Atlantic & Pacific Tea company; Miss Mattie Lou Dedman, cashier for the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Store; unidentified negro man.

After thirty-six hours of hard work on the part of the rescuers the debris had not been cleared away. There are still five missing, and it is believed that their bodies lie beneath the tons of brick that are still piled up. The known missing are: Mrs. M. T. Martin and Mrs. John Harrington, sisters; George W. Darnell, floor manager of the Hann store; J. E. Ray and Irving Milbrant.

Fire broke out in the shoe store, but the fire department quickly extinguished the flames.

Wealthy Woman Murdered.

New York.—Mrs. Julia Hellner, wife of Seligman Hellner, a wealthy carpet manufacturer, has been found murdered in her Brooklyn home. Her head had been crushed from blows of a bottle.

The motive apparently was robbery. The house had been ransacked and two valuable diamond rings and other articles were missing.

The police began a search for the caretaker of the home, a man named Joseph, recently employed. Miss Helen Buck, Mrs. Hellner's companion, said she left Mrs. Hellner alone in the house with Joseph. Later she called up the Hellner home by telephone and Joseph answered, telling her Mrs. Hellner was next door.

Flowers and Kisses For Hero.

Paris.—An incident in Paris illustrates popular regard for Gen. Pan, who recently returned from his political mission to Petrograd and the Balkan capitals. Persons who saw him enter the Red Cross branch in Place Madeleine waited in the street to see him come out. A girl quickly collected enough money in the crowd to buy for the general a huge bouquet of red, white and blue flowers.

Gen. Pan appeared to be deeply moved and kissed the girl. The crowd cheered him.

FLANDERS ATTACK BEING CONTINUED

GERMANS CLAIM FURTHER SUCCESS IN THEIR DRIVE TOWARD CALAIS.

TROOP MOVEMENTS VEILED

Canadian Troops Bear Brunt of Fighting in Deadly Contest Against Allied Lines—Eastern Front Is Quiet.

London.—The German rushes in Flanders and the Woerwe, where they claim considerable successes, are believed to be forerunners of another big effort to break through the allied lines in the west.

For many days Belgium has been sealed from the observation of neutrals, while German reinforcements are being moved to the south to take part in the new offensive, which they hope is to carry them to Calais. The attack in Flanders, originally leveled at the French, has been transferred to the British lines held by the Canadians, and here for two days the men from the dominion have been engaged in a deadly contest with the Germans. The Germans claim further progress toward Ypres and that British counter attacks have been repulsed.

The French, on the other hand, declare the allies' counter attacks continue with success and that the British hold all their positions.

The German attack in the Woerwe, or in the Meuse hills, was directed against the French positions south-west of Comblanchien, and, according to Berlin, the French suffered a heavy defeat. Paris, however, says that in a counter attack the Germans were driven out of the French front line, which they had pushed back.

It is believed that a half million new German troops have reached Flanders and that more guns and material are to be used than were provided for the original attempts to destroy the allied armies in the west—attempts which met with failure both in August and in October.

In the meantime the eastern front is enjoying a period of comparative calm, except in the mid-Carpathians. Both sides report successes.

CLOUDBURST DOES HAVOC

Texas Rivers Leave Death and Destruction in Their Wake.

Austin.—With the bodies of 14 persons drowned here recovered, 11 persons missing and rescuing parties still at work among the ruins of 200 homes that were swept away by the rain and wind storm of April 22, the citizenship of Austin began systematic plans for the relief of sufferers. Property loss is estimated at \$500,000. Temporary quarters were provided for all whose homes had been swept away or who were homeless and food and clothing is being furnished.

The identified dead include six white people, five negroes and three Mexicans.

Estimates on the damage vary, but in all probability will reach \$500,000. Twenty bridges were swept away and paved streets were razed.

Ten inches of rain fell in two hours and torrents of water poured into the homes of people living in lowlands before the alarm could be given.

With the city in darkness, rescuing parties struggled in the darkness to get helpless women and children out of danger.

The body of Mrs. Charles R. Winkler was carried 16 miles down the river by the force of the flood.

Czar Goes to Lemberg.

London.—Emperor Nicholas at Lemberg, Galicia, and has been in conference with Grand Duke Nicholas, says a Reuters dispatch. Crowds cheered him and he made a brief address, saying: "I thank you for this hearty welcome. Long live invincible Russia!"

This is the first report as to the whereabouts of Grand Duke Nicholas since Prussian newspapers a week ago published a statement that he had been shot in the abdomen by Gen. Sievers, whom Lie took to task for the East Prussia defeat.

Kronprinz Off Dock.

Newport News, Va.—The German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm was floated from drydock at the ship yard after having had her hull painted and repaired. She was towed to anchorage in the harbor. The guard from Fort Monroe returned to that post.

World's Best Shot Killed.

Ottawa, Ont.—That the Canadian division was hotly engaged in the recent Ypres battle is indicated by a list of 80 casualties among officers alone—21 killed and 59 wounded. The list is incomplete, as no artillery officers are mentioned.

One of those reported killed is Lieut. Col. W. Hart McElroy, of the Sixth D. C. O. R., Vancouver, who was the champion rifle shot of the world, winning the title at the last rifle matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, in 1913.

CONTINUE ARMS EXPORTS

Wilson Says to Stop Shipments Would Be Violation of Neutrality With the Allies.

Washington.—The United States on April 21 replied to the recent memorandum in which Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, declared that "if the American people desire to observe true neutrality they will find means to stop the exclusive exportation of arms to one side, or at least to use this export trade as a means to uphold the legitimate trade with Germany, especially the trade in foodstuffs."

The American note, signed by Secretary Bryan, was drafted at the state department, but was finally penned by President Wilson himself. After pointing out that the language used of Count von Bernstorff "is susceptible of being construed as impugning the good faith of the United States in the performance of its duties as a neutral," the note "takes it for granted that no such implication was intended," and suggests that evidently the German ambassador "is laboring under certain false impressions."

It then declares that while the relations of the United States with any one of the belligerents "cannot wisely be made a subject of discussion with a third government," such correspondence between the United States and the allies as has been published shows "the steadfast refusal" of the American government "to acknowledge the right of any belligerent to alter the accepted rules of war at sea insofar as they affect the rights and interests of neutrals."

The attitude of the United States on the question of exportations of arms is restated—namely, that to place any embargo on arms during the progress of a war would be a "direct violation of the neutrality of the United States."

The note refers to the spirit of friendship which the United States desires always to manifest toward Germany and its people and concludes with the declaration that the neutrality of the United States "is founded upon the firm basis of conscience and good will."

BATTLE AGAIN AT YPRES

Stupendous Events Believed to Be Foreshadowed by Battle on West Front.

London.—Stupendous events in the war are believed to be foreshadowed by the fighting now going on at Ypres and the general increased activities on the western battle front. Europe is highly expectant.

That a severe engagement has taken place near Ypres is confirmed by official reports, but these are so contradictory that the actual result of the preliminary fighting is not known. It would appear, however, that following their loss of Hill No. 60 and their failure to recapture it, the Germans have commenced an offensive from the northeast against the Anglo-French line in front of Ypres, some of such bloody battles last autumn, and also against the Belgian line farther west.

The Germans claim they drove the allies back to the Ypres Canal, taking 1,600 British and French prisoners and a number of guns. The French admit that the allies had to fall back, but declare this was due to the use by the Germans of asphyxiating gas bombs. Paris asserts that in counter attacks the allies took many German prisoners and that the Belgians repulsed German attacks. It is believed here that these operations are only the commencement of another battle of Ypres.

Turks Defeated at Persian Gulf.

London.—The following official communication has been issued: "The latest telegrams from the Persian Gulf show that the defeat of the Turks at Shah was even more complete than had been hoped. Not only have they abandoned their motor cars and guns and ammunition wagons, but independent reports show that their retreat has been a rout, molested by turncoat Arab tribesmen. There are persistent rumors of the suicide of Sultan Mehmed V, the Turkish commander-in-chief."

"It is estimated that the enemy's casualties from the 12th to the 15th of April reached 6,000."

Poland Is Desolated.

Berlin.—Poland is a land of indescribable desolation, with fully 5,500 houses destroyed, thousands of peasants homeless, and work of all kinds stopped, according to reports now reaching here. The retreating Russians appear to have treated their own territory quite as severely as they had treated East Prussia.

Three quarters of Poland has been hit by the war, and damage estimated at half a billion dollars has been done.

Mountains Save Texas Town.

Graham, Tex.—A cyclone here April 25 caused \$10,000 damage. Mountains north of the town turned the cloud away from the residence section and no lives were lost.

Italy Will Not Enter War.

Rome.—A prominent Italian statesman has made the statement that possibilities of Italy's early participation in the war now seemed more remote. "To enter the war Italy would first be obliged to break off negotiations with the central empires, which still are proceeding at Vienna," he said. "The government then would have to find a plausible reason for denouncing the treaty, which created the triple alliance. Even were that done, it is most likely that the central empires would not consider such action."

EVENTS IN MISSISSIPPI

The Jackson District Conference will meet at Terry, Miss., on Tuesday, May 12. The conference will be presided over by the presiding elder, Dr. Paul D. Hardin.

Gen. G. W. Price, Water Valley, commander Third Brigade, Mississippi Division, U. C. V., has announced the personnel of his Richmond reunion staff.

Maj. Moses of the coast artillery, who is also attached to inspector general's department of the United States army, recently made inspection of the regiment and barracks of the A. and M. college.

E. W. Denham of Quitman county, who was confined in the county jail at Clarksdale to await his trial on a charge of "whittapping," has been released under a bond of \$1,250 for his appearance for trial.

One thousand pounds of cotton seed have been sent through the Hattiesburg postoffice by W. E. Bibo, secretary of the Forrest County Trunkers' association, to the farmers of Forrest county. They will give the new seed a test.

Houston Kelly has been jailed at Quitman on the charge of forgery. It is alleged he forged an order on the chancery clerk here and secured his grandmother's United States pension warrant; then wrote her name across the back of it and cashed it.

A preliminary meeting of the alfalfa hay growers of the prairie belt of Monroe county was held to effect a permanent organization at Aberdeen. The purpose of this organization is to establish a co-operative marketing association and build warehouses at all the principal shipping points in the prairie section of the county.

Grover C. Day, the young Coldwater bookkeeper who had his throat cut by J. R. Solomon, an insurance agent of Greenville, Miss., is steadily improving. His physicians state that if no complications set up he will recover. Solomon is still in jail, and his preliminary trial will not be held until physicians are able to determine the extent of the injuries sustained by Day.

Yazoo City.—While City Marshal Dalton of Louisa, in the northwestern part of Yazoo county, and Deputy Sheriff John Purvis were attempting to arrest John Montgomery, a negro, the negro fired on Purvis as he entered the house to make the arrest, and shot away a part of his face with a shotgun. Purvis will recover, but will be badly disfigured.

The climax of a series of threatening blackhand letters received by W. C. Meek, an attorney at Columbus, was reached when he discovered a dynamite bomb under his home. A heavy rain is believed to have prevented the fuse being lighted, as several struck matches were found nearby. Mr. Meek during the past several months received threatening anonymous letters, and on one occasion he fired several shots at a prowler on his premises.

Formal notice has been received by Maj. J. R. Slattery, engineer in charge, at Vicksburg, of the recommended amount by the Mississippi river commission of funds to be used in the improvements, out of the recent appropriation. The commission recommends the sum of \$1,257,000 for the Third district, the bulk of which, so Maj. Slattery states, will be expended in revetment extensions. This work is to be done at Hollyar, Ashwood Neck, Panther Forest, Greenville, Grand Lake and Filler's.

Climbing down from the third story on a blanket ladder, Johnny Pace, alleged hold-up man, now in the Forrest county jail awaiting the action of the grand jury on five or six charges of highway robbery, made a daring and successful attempt to break from the county institution April 21. He was recaptured three hours after his escape.

After being unable to reach a verdict the jury in the Dr. E. R. Cook manslaughter case at Vicksburg was discharged April 20, and the case was entered up as a mistrial. The jury is said to have stood at first seven for conviction and five for acquittal, but later stood eight to four for conviction. When the verdict was returned, Dr. Cook's attorney, Judge J. McEl Martin of Port Gibson, and Special Judge R. B. Anderson departed for their homes.

The case has been a notable one in many respects and has attracted attention all through the state, due to the fact that Miss Blanche Pace, upon whom it was alleged a criminal operation had been performed, resided in Winona and was known in Jackson and other interior towns.

More lumber was shipped from Forrest county during March than during any other 31-day period since the war began.

Vardaman Conlee, aged 9, at Pontotoc, had his skull ripped open by a stalk-cutter April 21. While the lad was given immediate medical attention it is believed that he has only a bare chance for recovery. Young Conlee was operating the stalk-cutter on the farm of his father, Walter Conlee, when the team became frightened and ran away. The boy was thrown from his seat into the path of the machine.

Associate Justice Retires May 9.

The fortieth annual convention of the Mississippi Dental Association was called to order April 29 by President L. B. Price of Corinth.

Dentists Hold Session.

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RAILROAD WANTS CANNING OUTPUT

ILLINOIS CENTRAL COMPANY WOULD SUPPLY COMMISSARY FROM MISSISSIPPI.

LUTHER MANSHIP IS DEAD

Former Lieutenant Governor and Author Passes Away at Age of 62 Years—State House Closes During Funeral.

Jackson.—Miss Susie V. Powell, state agent for girls' club work and home economics, has received a communication from Walter Baber, commissary agent of the Illinois Central Railroad company, indicating a desire to open negotiations with the club women and girls of Mississippi for supplying the company's commissary with their canning output.

Copies of the letter will be sent the county agents with the request that complete information be furnished at once.

Luther ManSHIP Dies.

Luther ManSHIP, statesman, lecturer, author and one of the best known and most lovable men in Mississippi, died here April 22 at the age of 63 years. He began his political career in 1886. His last public service was in 1908 to 1912, when he was lieutenant-governor under the Noel administration.

The funeral services and interment of the remains was held on the following day. Out of respect to the distinguished citizen the state house offices, the county offices and the city offices were closed.

Emmett Seward Is Pardoned.

Gov. Brewer has granted a conditional pardon to Emmett Seward, convicted in Choctaw county in August, 1913, of manslaughter, and sentenced by the court to five years' servitude. Seward must obey all the laws of the state of Mississippi, and a lapse will render him liable to summary action and immediate return to the penitentiary.

Want Cleanest Town.

Jackson.—The Young Men's Business Club of Jackson at a largely attended meeting, voted to throw the weight of that organization into the scale by way of helping to make Jackson the cleanest town in Mississippi.

State Dentists Elect Officers.

Dr. P. M. Fulzer of McComb City, was elected president of the Mississippi Dental association and Dr. C. B. Baker of Amory was re-elected secretary and treasurer respectively, at the annual meeting recently held here.

Pardoned for Stealing Pigs.

L. W. Bryan, white, who is now at the Rankin state convict farm serving two sentences for grand larceny, has been given a conditional pardon by Gov. Brewer, who believed that for stealing two pigs he had been sufficiently punished. Bryan was sent up from Sunflower county in April, 1912.

Governor Calls Meeting.

Gov. Brewer has issued a proclamation fixing June 10 and 11 as dates for a meeting here of all interested in furthering the "Grown in Mississippi" campaign.

The governor calls attention to the need of good roads, improved agricultural conditions, etc., and requests the people, commercial bodies, boards of trades, etc., to send delegates.

Guard Stronger Than Last Year.

Adj. Gen. Eric C. Scales of the Mississippi National Guard says that the War Department official reports turned in by Lieut. B. F. McCallan of the recently completed federal inspection will show the state's military to be 16 per cent stronger in officers and 50 per cent stronger in enlisted men than was shown by the 1914 inspections.

Dies From Gunshot Wounds.

Pat Murphy, aged 20 years, the young farmer boy who was shot by Chas. Stratton, 60 years of age, on a street in Clinton April 17, died at the Charity Hospital here April 19. The body was buried near the Murphy home, two miles from Clinton.

Upton Sinclair Will Campaign.

Upton Sinclair, author, has come to Mississippi to enter the gubernatorial campaign in the capacity of campaigner for the Socialist candidates for state offices. He will reside on the golf coast, near Gulfport, and expects to make Mississippi his home.

Associate Justice Retires May 9.

The supreme court, who retires from the bench on May 9 next, will return to Natchez at the end of his term to live. He will give way on the bench to his recently appointed successor, Judge J. Morgan Stevens of Hattiesburg.

Dentists Hold Session.

The fortieth annual convention of the Mississippi Dental Association was called to order April 29 by President L. B. Price of Corinth.

ABANDONS IDEA OF DASHING FOR SEA

GERMAN CAPTAIN INTERNS KRONPRINZ WILHELM UNTIL END OF WAR.

MANY OF CREW ARE ILL

This, Says the Commander, Prevented His Again Taking Ship to Sea.

Newport News.—The German commerce destroyer Kronprinz Wilhelm, will be interred for the war in American waters at the request of her commander, Lieutenant Captain Thierfelder. Notice of his intentions was given by the German officer to Collector of Customs Hamilton in this message:

"Herewith I have to officially inform you that I intend."

Commander Thierfelder later amplified verbally this message by saying it had been his intention to attempt the dash for sea past the allied warships off the Virginia capes, but that the continued illness of more than 60 members of his crew would make that move impossible before the expiration of the time limit set for his departure from this neutral haven. It was understood the Washington government had allowed the commander until midnight, April 30, to repair his ship and put to sea.

The commander told the collector that his surgeons had informed him there was no prospect for the early recovery of the sailors who are suffering with beriberi, and added that his ship could not be properly manned with so many of his crew incapacitated.

The United States government will maintain a naval and military patrol around the Wilhelm until she is taken to the Norfolk navy yard, there to be laid up near the Prinz Albert Frederick, another German sea rover, which was interned nearly a month ago.

Commander Thierfelder's notice to Collector Hamilton came unexpectedly. Early in the day the Wilhelm, which had been anchored in the harbor since leaving the shipyard last week, was towed to a coal pier and began loading several thousand tons of coal.

This fact together with reports that she had been granted sufficient provisions to carry her to the nearest German port, caused the belief in some quarters that the cruiser was preparing to depart. The loading of the coal continued after the notice of the commander had been given.

The Wilhelm, formerly a "North German Lloyd" passenger liner, plying between New York and Bremen, arrived here April 11, after spending eight months in the South seas. Several times she was reported destroyed but she eluded many hostile warships which sought her and destroyed 13 merchant vessels of the allied enemies of Germany and one neutral vessel, a Norwegian bark. The commander claimed the bark carried contraband.

DRIVE SHIP WITH ELECTRICITY

Contract to Install Equipment on the California Let.

Washington.—Electric propelling machinery for the new battleship California, the first sea fighter of any nation to be equipped with the electric drive, will be built by the General Electric company of New York for \$421,000, Secretary Daniels announced. The California is building at New York navy yard, which submitted an estimate of \$611,000 for a steam equipment.

Mr. Daniels' decision to install electric machinery has created keen interest in naval circles and some officers think the success of the experiment would mark as great an advance in marine propulsion as did the advent of the steam turbine.

"Not only is the electric drive cheaper to construct than a turbine installation," said the secretary, "but it offers also superior economy in operation, a reduction in weight and utilization of full power in backing. The latter is an important military feature, which is not obtainable in an all-turbine installation."

Famous Movie Actor Dead.

New York.—John Hunny, whose antics as a moving picture comedian have made millions laugh, died at his home in Brooklyn. He had been ill for three weeks from a complication of diseases. Members of his family were with him when he died.

For a week he apparently had been on the mend. A strenuous month of work, it is believed, caused the breakdown which resulted in his